GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2432
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2007
AGREEMENT WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES
Bose Shri Subrata;Reddy Shri Magunta Sreenivasulu

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has signed an agreement with any foreign countries under the Open Sky Policy;

(b) if so, the salient features of the agreement;

(c) the benefits likely to accure to both the countries under the agreement;

(d) whether India has sought certain modifications to ensure that the benefits do not go to international carriers in the tie-up with other countries;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether India has rejected any foreign country`s proposal to conduct a security audit of all the Indian airports;

(g) if so, the details in this regard; and

(h) the number of flights increased after implementation of the said agreement between the countries?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a): Yes, Sir. The Government has signed an agreement based on `Open Skies` principles with the Government of USA on 15th January, 2005.

(b) and (c): As per this agreement, the designated airlines of each country are entitled to operate any number of services to any point in each other`s territory via any intermediate point and to any beyond point.

(d): No, Sir.

(e): Does not arise.

(f) & (g): India is a signatory to the International Civil Aviation Organization. Therefore, only ICAO AVSEC Auditors can conduct the security audit in India.

(h): After the signing of the India-US Agreement, two new US carriers have commenced direct operations to/from India and Air India has increased its services from 25 to 31 services per week to USA. However the designated airlines of both sides have increased operation of code share services. The increase in code share services by the US carriers is 70 services per week and by Air India 35 services per week.